

What is claimed is:

1. A molten glass supply device comprising:

a melting furnace that serves as a supply source of
5 molten glass; and
a supply path that supplies molten glass let out from
the melting furnace to a forming device for a glass product,
wherein
the molten glass has a property in which a
10 temperature at which the molten glass exhibits a viscosity
of 1000 poise is 1350°C or higher, and the supply path
comprises a distribution portion in communication with a
flow outlet of the melting furnace, and a plurality of
branch paths branching from the distribution portion and
15 extending toward a plurality of the forming devices.

2. The molten glass supply device according to claim

1, wherein a plurality of distribution resistance providing
portions which provide distribution resistance to the
20 molten glass let to flow through the respective branch
paths are provided in the branch paths, respectively. -

3. The molten glass supply device according to claim

1, wherein supply pressures of the molten glass distributed
25 from the distribution portion for supply to the respective

branch paths are equalized to each other.

4. The molten glass supply device according to claim
2, wherein at least a surface of an inner wall of the
5 distribution resistance providing portion in contact with
the molten glass is made of one selected from the group
consisting of platinum, molybdenum, palladium, rhodium, and
an alloy thereof.

10 5. The molten glass supply device according to claim
4, comprising energizing (or direct electric) heating means
which heats the molten glass by supplying current through
the one selected from the group consisting of platinum,
molybdenum, palladium, rhodium, and an alloy thereof.

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6. The molten glass supply device according to claim
2, each of the distribution resistance providing portions
is composed of a plurality of baffle plate provided in the
branch path.

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7. The molten glass supply device according to claim
6, wherein at least a surface of the baffle plate in
contact with the molten glass is made of one selected from
the group consisting of platinum, molybdenum, palladium,
25 rhodium, and an alloy thereof.

8. The molten glass supply device according to claim 1, wherein the distribution portion has a bottom shallower than the melting furnace.

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9. The molten glass supply device according to claim 1, wherein the depth of the distribution portion is equal to, or less than, $4/5$ the depth of the melting furnace.

10 10. The molten glass supply device according to claim 1, wherein the depth of the distribution portion is equal to, or less than 500 mm.

11. The molten glass supply device according to claim 1, wherein heating means that heats the molten glass in the distribution portion so that the molten glass has a viscosity of 1000 poise or less is provided.

12. The molten glass supply device according to claim 1, wherein at least a surface of an inner wall of the distribution portion in contact with the molten glass is made of one selected from the group consisting of platinum, molybdenum, palladium, rhodium, and an alloy thereof.

25 13. The molten glass supply device according to claim

1, wherein the forming device is a forming device for a sheet glass.

14. A glass product manufactured by using the molten
5 glass supply device according to claim 1.

15. A glass product manufactured by using the molten
glass supply device according to claim 2.

10 16. A glass product manufactured by using the molten
glass supply device according to claim 3.

17. A glass product manufactured by using the molten
glass supply device according to claim 8.

15 18. A glass product manufactured by using the molten
glass supply device according to claim 12.

19. A method of producing a glass product comprising
20 the steps of:

melting raw materials to obtain high viscosity glass
in a melting furnace, the high viscosity glass having a
property in which a temperature at which the molten glass
exhibits a viscosity of 1000 poise is 1350°C or higher;

25 distributing molten glass coming out from the melting

furnace through a distribution portion in communication
with an outlet of the melting furnace for supply to a
plurality of branch paths; and

supplying the molten glass passed through the
5 plurality of branch paths to forming devices in
communication with the plurality of branch paths and
forming glass products.

20. The method of producing a glass product according
10 to claim 19, further comprising the step of providing
distribution resistance to the molten glass flowing through
the plurality of branch paths.